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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

1           1.       (original) A method for translating control messages between a network manager  
2       and a router, the method comprising:  
3                   intercepting an input command message intended for said router, said router  
4       partitioned into a plurality of logical router partitions, said input command message expressed in  
5       terms of a logical router partition;  
6                   translating the logical router partition expressed in said input command message  
7       into a physical router expression; and  
8                   propagating said input command message, including any translated expressions,  
9       toward said router.

1           2.       (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of translating comprises:  
2                   translating a logical target identifier to a physical router target identifier.

1           3.       (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said intercepting step comprises:  
2                   indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of said input  
3       command message.

1           4.       (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                   intercepting a return message from the router, said return message expressed in  
3       physical router terms;  
4                   translating said physical router expression of said return message into a logical  
5       router partition and  
6                   propagating said translated return message toward said network manager.

1           5.       (original) The method of claim 4, wherein said step of translating said physical  
2 router expression comprises:  
3               translating a physical router target identifier to a logical target identifier.

1           6.       (previously amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising determining  
2 said logical target identifier from a return correlation tag of said return message and an index, an  
3 input and the return correlation tags having a predetermined relationship.

1           7.       (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the return message comprises at least  
2 one of a command response message and an acknowledgment message.

1           8.       (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2               intercepting an autonomous message from one of the network elements, said  
3 autonomous message expressed in terms of an access identifier;  
4               matching the access identifier with an associated logical target identifier;  
5               translating the physical router target identifier to the logical target identifier; and  
6               propagating the translated autonomous message toward the network manager.

1           9.       (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the autonomous message comprises an  
2 alarm message.

1           10.      (previously amended) A method for translating control messages between a  
2 network manager and a router, said router represented as a plurality of logical partitions, said  
3 method comprising:  
4               intercepting an input transaction language (TL1) message from the network  
5 manager intended for the router, wherein the first TL1 message is expressed with a logical target  
6 identifier;  
7               translating the logical target identifier of the intercepted input TL1 message to a  
8 physical router target identifier; and

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9 propagating the TL1 message, including any translated expressions, toward the  
10 router.

1 11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said intercepting step further  
2 comprises:  
3 indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of said input  
4 TL1 message.

1 12. (previously amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
2 intercepting a return transaction language (TL1) message from the router to the  
3 network manager, wherein the return TL1 message is expressed with a physical router target  
4 identifier;  
5 translating the physical router target identifier of the intercepted return TL1  
6 message to a logical target identifier; and  
7 propagating the TL1 message, including any translated expressions, toward the  
8 router.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising determining said logical  
2 target identifier from a return correlation tag of said return message and said index, wherein said  
3 input and return correlation tags are equivalent.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the return TL1 message comprises at  
2 least one of a command response message and an acknowledgement message.

1 15. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:  
2 intercepting an autonomous TL1 message from one of the network elements, said  
3 autonomous TL1 message expressed in terms of an access identifier;  
4 matching the access identifier with an associated logical target identifier;  
5 translating the physical router target identifier to the logical target identifier; and

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6 propagating the autonomous message, including any translated expressions,  
7 toward the network manager.

1 16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the autonomous TL1 message  
2 comprises an alarm message.

1 17. (previously amended) Apparatus for routing control messages between a network  
2 manager and a router, comprising:  
3 means for intercepting an input command message intended for said router, said  
4 router partitioned into a plurality of logical router partitions, said input command message  
5 expressed in terms of a logical router partition;  
6 means for translating each logical router partition expressed in said input  
7 command message into a physical router expression;  
8 means for propagating the input command message, including any translated  
9 expressions, toward the router.

1 18. (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said translating means comprises:  
2 translating a logical target identifier to a physical router target identifier.

1 19. (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said intercepting step comprises:  
2 means for indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of  
3 said input command message.

1 20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:  
2 means for intercepting a return message from the router, said return message  
3 expressed in physical router terms;  
4 means for translating said physical router expression of said return message into a  
5 logical router partition; and  
6 means for propagating said return message, including any translated expressions,  
7 toward said network manager.